MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

17 SEPTEMBER 1986

Iran-Iraq War

The Iranian War Information Headquarters announced Iran's decision to halt retaliatory attacks on Iraq due to the latter's discontinuation of attacks on Iranian civilian and industrial areas 14-15 September, IRNA reported. Nevertheless, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn told the Iraqi people in a speech broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio that Iraq will retaliate with "accuracy, vehemence, and firmness" for missile and artillery attacks by the Iranians and for "their killing of prisoners." However, while noting "your roaring slogans demanding immediate retaliation and revenge," he asked the people to "please leave the timing and method of retaliation to us." Iraq must use its capability rationally and exercise self-restraint and patience, he said, and it must take worldwide public opinion into consideration when making military decisions. He also maintained that the majority of Iranians want an end to the war, adding that Iraqi military policy must therefore promote this tendency and avoid inflaming the situation.

As for military developments, an Iranian military statement cited by IRNA announced that Iranian forces advanced northwest of Mehran early 16 September, capturing a "strategic" height that overlooks the Iraqi towns of Zurbativah and Badrah and taking 50 prisoners. Iraqi planes hit another "large maritime target" off the Iranian coast the previous morning, according to a communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio.

Israel

Reporting on Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' talks with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, Jerusalem radio said the Americans and Israelis agree on conditions which will make it very difficult for the USSR to join an international conference on the Mideast problem. Under these circumstances, it is doubtful whether the idea which was supposed to lead to a breakthrough in the political process will materialize, the radio added. In remarks broadcast by the radio, Peres acknowledged that his support for an international conference is a "tactical move, both in order to return the ball to the Soviet court and in order to show the Arabs what the real limitations are." As for the results of his meeting with President Ronald Reagan, Peres said his requests in the economic sphere were favorably answered, the radio noted.

Lebanese Terrorism in France

Both the "Committee for Solidarity with Arab and Middle East Political Prisoners" and the "Supporters of Right and Freedom" claimed responsibility for the 15 September bomb attack at the Paris police headquarters, Paris radio reported, noting that the latter group exhorted the former "not to exploit the efforts of others."

Pakistan

Pakistan and the PRC signed an agreement for bilateral cooperation on peaceful uses of nuclear energy, Karachi radio disclosed in a report on the foreign minister's visit to Beijing. The agreement makes clear that this cooperation will be solely for peaceful purposes and is not aimed at producing any explosive device, the radio added, noting the foreign minister's statement that Pakistan "does not want to develop or acquire a nuclear weapon."

Sudan

Two people were killed and 34 were injured when demonstrators clashed with security forces in the Darfur Province town of Nyala 13 September, SUNA reported. The armed forces intervened after a peaceful student protest against "exorbitant" commodity price increases degenerated into riots during which demonstrators stoned the local military governor and set fire to houses and shops.

Libyan Oil Production

Libya will begin producing and exporting oil from offshore fields by the end of 1987, Tripoli radio reported, noting that a large drilling and production platform is being erected in the sea at Al-Buri oilfield, 25 km north west of Tripoli.

Mideast Diplomatic Developments

Turkey — The chief of the Soviet General Staff held talks in Ankara with the defense minister and other Turkish military officials, Ankara radio reported.

Syria — SANA noted that President Hafiz al-Asad received visiting Hungarian President Pal Losonczi.

PDRY — Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the PDRY Supreme Council Presidium, issued decrees providing for the appointment of 12 ambassadors, Aden radio announced.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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17 SEPTEMBER 1986

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi planes carried out three raids on jetties and loading facilities at Khark Island 16 September, disrupting Iranian repair work and hitting an oil tanker docking at the island, the Iraqi command announced in a communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. A military spokesman cited by INA denied an Iranian claim that four Iraqi planes were shot down over Khark, asserting that all Iraqi aircraft returned safely to base. An Iraqi spokesman also denied Iran's claim to have launched an attack in the central sector near Mehran, asserting that Iran has begun inventing "fictitious battles," according to INA. For Iran's part, IRNA stated that an Iraqi warplane was shot down over the Gulf 17 September while attempting to attack an Iranian frigate.

In another development, KUNA cited a Kuwaiti official announcement that a Kuwaiti oil tanker was attacked by a warship off the northern Saudi port of Ra's al-Khalfji the evening of 16 September. The tanker was hit by two missiles, which caused a fire in one of the rear storage holds.

Assassination of Soviet Diplomat in Pakistan

Pakistani leaders expressed "deep shock" over the assassination of a Soviet military attache in Islamabad, Karachi radio reported, noting that the diplomat was shot dead by a "deranged" person with a history of mental illness. The assassin, who is under arrest, had been trying to obtain a visa to go to the Soviet Union.

Statements on Paris Terrorism

The Libyan People's Bureau in Paris issued a statement condemning the recent terrorist attacks in the French capital and denouncing "tendentious attempts led by circles outside France" to implicate Libya in these actions, JANA reported. In Beirut, the "Committee for Solidarity with Arab and Middle East Political Prisoners" issued a communique threatening further violence including an attack on the wall surrounding the French presidential palace, according to AFP.

Lebanon

U.S. Hostages — The Islamic Jihad group issued a statement urging the American people to act in order to achieve a "happy end" to the plight of U.S. hostages in Lebanon, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. The statement accused President Ronald Reagan of pursuing a "deceitful" policy in which he is concerned for U.S. journalist Nicholas Daniloff but not for the U.S. hostages, AFP noted.

The agency also carried the text of an accompanying letter, purportedly written by hostage David Jacobsen but couch- ed in poor English, which said the hostages are sick and in a bad psychological state.

Birri Criticism of Dialogue — The Christian leaders "only pretended to be seeking agreement" and "wanted to go backward," Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri maintained in a statement reported by Voice of National Resistance radio after the latest dialogue committee meeting in Beirut. Birri said his side had tried to find "conciliatory formulas" but in light of the Christian attitude "we insisted that the dialogue be suspended." Nevertheless, Prime Minister Rashid Karami announced that the committee will meet again 23 September, according to the Voice of Lebanon.

Israel

The Justice Ministry is investigating claims that Arab prisoners in the occupied territories are being tortured, Jerusalem radio disclosed, noting that the allegations were made in an Amnesty International report. Amnesty's charges that Israeli interrogators have supervised torture by the Army of Southern Lebanon (ASL) were strongly denied by Uri Lubrani, the Defense Ministry coordinator on Lebanon, who said the ASL's jail at Al-Khiyyam is the sole responsibility of the ASL and its commander.

Tunisia

Tunis radio reported President Habib Bourguiba's decision to appoint new chiefs for the air force and the military security service.

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Young Workers Group Reportedly Merges With PDPA

LD170842 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0451 GMT 17 Sep 86

[Text] Kabul, September 16, BAKHTAR: The Vanguard Organisation of Young Workers of Afghanistan (VOYWA) has merged with the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, PDPA, says a joint statement released here today.

The statement says that the PDPA as a party of the working class and all the workers of the country is acting on the basis of the principle of revolutionary scientific theory and is a leading and directive force of the society.

The Vanguard Organisation of Young Workers of Afghanistan (VOYWA), the statement points out, is also a part of the People's Liberation Movement which is loyal to the lofty objectives of the workers and proletarian internationalism.

The statement says that the unification of the PDPA and VOYWA has been announced on the basis of convictions and common ideological, political, and organisational aims and the consolidation of a new type of single revolutionary party in a united country and the ever-faster mobilisation of all masses of the people in the struggle against imperialism headed by U.S. imperialism, Chinese chauvinism, reaction, and the counterrevolution.

On the basis of these common lines, the unification of VOYWA with the PDPA aimed at defending the goals of the April Revolution is fully necessary and law-governed.

Therefore, the VOYWA of Afghanistan on the basis of common principles and organisational affinity with the PDPA is inserted in the protocol dated September 15, 1986.

Both sides, the statement indicates, pledge to continue ever-more firmer and more powerfully their just and revolutionary struggle for ensuring peace, ending bloodshed, total elimination of counter-revolution and the realisation of the program of action and decisions of the 19th Plenum of PDPA CC as per the norms of the Constitution of the PDPA as a single unit under the leadership of the PDPA CC and its Politburo.

Earlier, the Working People's Revolutionary Association of Afghanistan (WPRAA), a left-wing democratic organisation, was also merged with the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, PDPA, under a joint statement released in July this year.

These developments have taken place on the basis of the decision of the 19th Plenum of the PDPA CC aimed at uniting all the national and democratic forces.

Keshtmand Addresses Politburo on Nonaligned Summit

LD162024 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 16 Sep 86

[Excerpts] A session of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo was held in the Central Committee headquarters.

The Politburo heard a report from Comrade Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, on the participation of the DRA delegation in the Eighth Conference of the Heads of State or Government of the Nonaligned Movement which was held in Harere, the capital of Zimbabwe.

The PDPA Central Committee Politburo approved the report of Comrade Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand.

At the Politburo it was pointed out that the active participation of the DRA delegation in the Harare conference and meetings and contacts of Comrade Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand at this conference with the heads of state or government of a number of friendly countries further enhanced the international prestige of the DRA and increased further the awareness of the international public opinion concerning the truth about democratic Afghanistan.

It was emphasized at the Politburo that the speech of Comrade Keshtmand which was delivered at the conference on behalf of the DRA had a specific and positive influence on the view of the various countries' delegates concerning the DRA.

At this session it was pointed out that despite the efforts of the DRA's enemies and pressures by U.S. imperialism, the prestige of the DRA in the Nonalignment Movement is being enhanced. [passage omitted]

The Politburo regarded as positive the results of the Harare conference in securing international peace, disarmament, a reduction in the arms race, and support for the people who are fighting for their freedom and independence as well as freedom from the domination of the imperialist neocolonialism in various fields, in particular in the economic field.

The Politburo also discussed a number of other domestic and international issues and adopted decisions in these respects.

Tehran Reports Afghan Rebels Down Enemy Plane

LD161945 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Sep 86

[Text] Air defense fire of the Afghan Muslim revolutionaries has downed a fighter plane of the occupying forces. According to an IRNA dispatch from Islamabad, in the course of an operation launched by the Afghan Muslim revolutionaries against the joint occupying and governmental forces in the region of Tarin Kowt, in Oruzgan Province, on 1 September a tank and a personnel carrier of the joint forces were destroyed and 12 of their troops were either killed or wounded.

According to the report, the warplanes of the occupiers began bombing the region, which resulted in the downing of the fighter plane of the joint forces.

Rebels 'Crushed' in Lowgar, Baghlan Provinces
LD170833 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0418 GMT 17 Sep 86

[Text] Kabul, September 16, BAKHTAR — As a result of successful operations carried out by the Armed Forces of the DRA in Lowgar and Baghlan Provinces, east and north of the country, a number of counter-revolutionary bandits were crushed.

A large quantity of assorted weapons and ammunition including anti-tank and anti-personnel mines, 21 rocket launchers, two heavy machine guns and one ground-to-air missile were confiscated by the Armed Forces of the DRA.

Kabul Reports Arms Seized in Nangarhar Province
LD161912 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 16 Sep 86

[Text] BAKHTAR reports that, as a result of a successful operation by the Armed Forces, a number of counterrevolutionary elements who were disrupting the peaceful life of the local people in Sorkh Rud District, Nangarhar Province, were punished for their foul deeds.

During the operation a missile launcher unit, one mortar along with 380 bombs, 54 boxes of ammunition for DShK's; 66 antivehicle mines, 3 boxes of antipersonnel mines and 35 boxes of ammunition for assorted weapons were seized.

Ershad Views 'Overall Situation' With Military Chiefs

BK161719 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 16 Sep 86

[Text] President and commander in chief of the Armed Forces, Hussain Mohammad Ershad, had a high-level meeting with three service chiefs and senior officers of the Armed Forces in Dhaka this evening.

The meeting discussed overall situation in the country. Chief of army staff, Lieutenant General M. Attiqur Rahman; chief of naval staff, Rear Admiral Sultan Ahmed; chief of air staff, Air Vice Marshal Sultan Mahmud; all area commanders of the army and PSL's of the three services attended the meeting.

AFP Reports Clash Along Indian Border

BK170312 Hong Kong AFP in English 0509 GMT 17 Sep 86

[Text] Dhaka, Sept 17 (AFP) — A Bangladesh border police outpost in southeastern Hagrachari District came under heavy fire Tuesday and press reports quoting local officials said Shanti Bahini insurgents launched the attack.

They were allegedly backed by Indian border security forces, the press reports said.

The *New Nation* said in a report from Chittagong that forces in the post, which borders India's Tripura State, returned the fire which continued for half an hour. The newspaper gave no information on casualties.

Group Expresses 'Concern' Over Political Situation
BK161257 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 16 Sep 86

[Text] A seven-member group led by Mr Pranab Mukherji today called on the president, Giani Zail Singh, in New Delhi and submitted a memorandum to him expressing concern over the political and economic situation in the country. Criticizing the Mizo accord, the memorandum said it would not only encourage separatist forces. They said the outcome of Punjab and Assam accords is disappointing. The group which calls itself the All India Congress-I Workers Convention accused the government of diluting the country's economic policy by liberalizing imports and encouraging privatization. The signatories to the memorandum included Mr R. Gunddu Rao, Mr Prakash Mehrotra, Mr Shisir Kumar Bose, Mr S.S. Mahaptara, Mr S.M. Khan, and Mr Ashoke Bhattacharya.

Suspected Terrorists in Punjab Seized by Border Force
BK170310 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 17 Sep 86

[Text] In Punjab, four more suspected terrorists have been arrested by the Border Security Force [BSF]. The arrested persons include a priest, Gurdayal Singh, from (Dyalgarh) near Batala who had escaped after making an abortive attempt to raid a BSF post a few days ago. According to official information reaching BSF headquarters, Preetam Singh, an alleged harborer of terrorists, was apprehended from a village in Ludhiana District. In a house-to-house search BSF men also picked up two other suspected terrorists. A large quantity of ammunition with foreign markings was seized.

In a separate raid near the Indo-Pakistan border in Rajasthan, a BSF patrol apprehended a Pakistani national while he was attempting to cross the border with 15 bags of heroin. The heroin is worth about 30 lakh rupees. One rifle and some light cartridges have also been seized from the intruder.

AFP: Sikh Militants Kill 2 in Punjab
NC162140 Paris AFP in English 2134 GMT 16 Sep 86

[Text] New Delhi, Sept 16 (AFP) — Sikh militants gunned down a Hindu leader and a Sikh in scattered violence in the Punjab Tuesday as security forces arrested seven people, including a woman, in the strife-torn north Indian state, the *Press Trust of India* (PTI) news agency said.

PTI said two Sikh militants riding a scooter shot dead Vijay Mohan, a leader of the Hindu Shiv Sena Organisation, at his shop at Phillaur, some 300 kilometres (185 miles) north-west of here.

Hindu shopkeepers in the town immediately downed shutters and called for a day-long protest strike for Wednesday.

PTI said three Sikh militants also killed a Nihang, a term describing members of a tiny Sikh sect whose members generally carry swords, near Budhsinghwala village in the border district of Faridkot. The police did not give the victim's name.

The killings occured even as security forces battled a group of Sikh militants and arrested Veer Kaur, 26 in Amritsar District after charging her with being a spy for militants campaigning for a Sikh homeland christened Khalistan.

PTI quoted Amritsar's Police Chief H.S. Kahlon as saying that Avtar Singh Brahma, who carried a reward of 50,000 rupees (4,000 dollars) on his head, and two Sikh militants fled after a gunbattle with security forces. This was the third time Brahma escaped being caught, he added.

Mr Kahlon said Ms Kaur, who was arrested in an Amritsar hotel along with two men, admitted having passed on information about the movement of security forces in the state to Sikh militants based in neighbouring Pakistan.

The Indian Government has repeatedly accused Islamabad of backing Sikh militants in the Punjab, but Pakistan has denied the charge.

PTI added that the para-military Border Security Force rounded up four suspected Sikh militants after house-to-house searches in Gurdaspur District and seized more than 150 rounds of ammunition from them.

Tuesday's killings came after two days of relative peace in the Punjab.

NEPAL

Border Committee Meeting With India Held in Katmandu

BK170328 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 17 Sep 86

[Text] The Indo-Nepal Joint Technical Committee on Boundary meeting began in Katmandu yesterday. The 5-day meeting will review the maintenance of boundary pillars and restoration of missing pillars, if any.

Our Katmandu correspondent says that the officials of the two countries meet periodically to discuss the maintenance work done by the field officers at the border and remove any encroachment on the specified boundary.

SRI LANKA

President, Ministers Address Public Meeting in Kandy

BK161145 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 16 Sep 86

[Text] President J.R. Jayewardene has called upon the people to be with him if they think that he is going ahead and solving the problems faced by them and to oppose him if they consider him to be backing away in the face of problems. Addressing a public meeting in Kandy last evening, the president stressed that he has always been prepared to discharge the responsibility vested in him by the people. The meeting was called to explain the proposed provincial council system.

Mr Jayewardene recalled that the country faced various conspiracies at different periods in its history and such conspiracies could not be considered as has been during the current time. Highly placed persons had been involved in the plots, and the assassination of Prime Minister Bandaranaike and the 1962 coup attempt were examples of this. The president said that he did not place his confidence in coups but in the people and added that he had never been involved in any conspiracy. Even Mrs Bandaranaike had conceded this fact. Mr Jayewardene also explained in detail the functioning of the Constitution and the Executive in the country.

Addressing those present, Prime Minister R. Premadasa said that he appealed to the Indian prime minister not to provide a haven to the terrorists as the government had proposed a just solution to resolve the present crisis. He said that the minority communities suffered an injustice under the 1972 Constitution which led to the birth of terrorism. The present Constitution has removed this injustice. The prime minister observed that the government did not make efforts to stockpile arms. On the contrary, it wanted to develop the country and good results have been obtained through the development efforts. Several Cabinet ministers also spoke outlining the benefits that would accrue to the people through decentralization of the administration.

Khomeyni Receives High-Ranking IRGC Officials

LD171139 Tehran IRNA in English 1130 GMT 17 Sep 86

[Text] Tehran, Sept 17, IRNA — The leader of the Islamic Revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Imam Khomeyni, received high-ranking officials of the Islamic Revolution's Guard Corps (IRGC), here Wednesday.

During the meeting the officials reported to Imam Khomeyni on the activities of their units and the imam issued necessary guidelines in return.

The officials were IRGC Commander Mohsen Reza'i, IRGC Minister Mohsen Rafiqdust, commander of the Basij volunteer forces, commanders of IRGC army, air, and naval forces and their deputies.

Paris Envoy Views Relations With French Government

PM161137 Paris LE MONDE in French 14-15 Sep 86 pp 1,2

[Interview with Gholamreza Haddadi, Iranian charge d'affaires in Paris, by Alain Frachon — date and place not given]

[Text] The financial dispute between France and Iran could be settled at least partly in the "near future," possibly "in several weeks," according to the Iranian charge d'affaires in Paris. "I am optimistic," Gholamreza Haddadi told us, and he is clearly very anxious to report "progress" at a time when some people are suggesting that the financial negotiations between the two countries are marking time.

"I must say that the French government has shown a degree of goodwill on this problem" of the repayment of the 1 billion dollar loan which Iran made to the Atomic Energy Commission in 1974, Mr Haddadi continued.

According to the diplomat "progress was made this summer" during the latest talks which the delegation of French negotiators had in Tehran. Of course Mr Haddadi admits that no new meeting between the two delegations is planned, but "this is certainly not a bad sign," he said, hinting that the negotiations have reached an advanced stage.

In this connection, Mr Haddadi said that Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond "recently sent a written message" to Mr Velayati, his Iranian counterpart; "and I can tell you," the charge d'affaires continued, "that I will very soon pass on an important reply from Mr Velayati," relating to the loan in particular. Mr Haddadi does not know the "details" of this reply, just the broad outlines: However, he said, he is able to say he is "delighted" with the developments in the negotiations and "optimistic about the future of Franco-Iranian relations."

As far as Tehran is concerned, the normalization of these relations requires the fulfillment of three conditions: the departure from France of the Iranian Mojahedin-e Khalq opposition movement (this has already been done and this organization's main leaders moved to Bagdhdad in June); the repayment of the 1 billion dollar loan (this is about to be settled, according to Mr Haddadi; and, finally, an end to French support for Iraq, which has been at war with Iran for almost 7 years.

Are we to conclude from this that there can be no "normalization" with Paris until France modifies its relations with Iraq? The charge d'affaires does not seem to think so. Of course, he said, "our preconditions cannot be separated," but he added immediately that the settlement of the financial dispute should pave the way for normalization to start. This will be an important stage and "the trend can be developed," according to Mr Haddadi who seems to give priority to the settlement of the financial dispute.

As far as the French government is concerned, the normalization of relations with Iran ought to lead Tehran to use its influence with the (pro-Iranian) Lebanese Shi'ite extremists who are holding French nationals hostage in Beirut. On this subject Mr Haddadi was categorical and reaffirmed Tehran's position. "Franco-Iranian relations," he said, "are entirely unconnected with what is happening in Lebanon," be it the hostage affair or the struggle which some pro-Iranian Shi'ite groups are waging against the UN Interim Force in Lebanon in southern Lebanon.

He said that events in Lebanon are certainly not "taken into consideration" in the Franco-Iranian talks. The charge d'affaires did not deny that "the Islamic Republic of Iran has a major influence in Lebanon" or that it has "very close relations with that country's clerics and Muslims"; however this "does not allow us to conclude that everything which happens (in Lebanon — *Le Monde* editor's note) is controlled by the Islamic Republic...."

Mr Haddadi also said that he did not understand why Mr Raimond stated a few days ago that he would not make an official visit to Tehran until the hostages are released. "This visit," the diplomat explained, "is entirely France's decision; Mr Raimond could make it in the present conditions...because it is desirable for officials to meet." He also said he is convinced that "as a result of the positive actions observed for several months," Franco-Iranian relations will in future find "their true dimension in the interests of the two sides."

The charge d'affaires also expressed surprise that the use of chemical weapons by the Iraqi forces is not sparking off more protests from the international community and especially from France. It is because Iraq is using this type of weapon in violation of international agreements, he said, that Iran was forced to fire a missile at Baghdad on Friday.

There is only one solution which will end the conflict and "that is the departure of Saddam Husayn," (the Iraqi president). "Our position on the front is now stronger than ever; our forces are ready for a decisive offensive," the diplomat stressed while expressing the hope that "a coup d'etat will overthrow Saddam Husayn" before Iran needs to launch this offensive.

Finally, the charge d'affaires was anxious to say on the subject of terrorism: "It is an activity which must be condemned outright whatever form it takes and wherever it is perpetrated; we have been the victims of terrorism and we certainly do not approve of the massacre of innocent people."

Minister of Agriculture Confers with Head of ECO
LD161656 Tehran IRNA in English 1547 GMT 16 Sep 86

[Text] Tehran, Sept 16, IRNA — Secretary General of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) of Iran, Turkey, and Pakistan Bihjat Turman met and conferred Tuesday with Iranian Minister of Agriculture 'Abbas 'Ali Zali.

At the meeting, Zali said that relations and cooperation in economic and technical fields should be expanded further among the three Muslim and neighbouring countries; he added, that the three countries can share their agricultural as well as other experiences with each other.

The ECO secretary general welcomed the suggestion and noted that ECO organization will shortly become a member of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

Departs for New Zealand 17 Sep
LD170708 Tehran IRNA in English 0635 GMT 17 Sep 86

[Text] Tehran, Sept 17 IRNA — The Iranian minister of agriculture, 'Abbas 'Ali Zali, heading a delegation left Tehran for a tour of New Zealand and Australia Wednesday morning. In Wellington, New Zealand, Zali is scheduled to attend the first session of the Iran-New Zealand Joint Economic Commission. He will also inspect the agricultural projects in both the countries.

Speaking to IRNA prior to his departure, Zali said that the first session of the Joint Economic Commission was being held following expansion of economic relations. Officials from the Iranian Ministries of Agriculture, Commerce, Oil, and Industries as well as Majlis deputies are members of the commission.

The joint commission meets in capitals of each country every alternate year, he added.

Iraqi Muslims Urged To Join Special Convoys
LD162041 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Sep 86

[Text] The central headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq (SAIRI), issued a joint statement. It announces that simultaneously with epic Muharram days and following the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps announcement to form Muharram convoys for the battlefronts, the Iraqi Muslim Mojahedins living in Islamic Iran, along side other zealous combatants of the army of monotheism, will participate in the Muharram convoys and determine the fate of the war and the collapse of Baghdad's 'Aflaqite regime.

All the Iraqi Muslim Mojahedins, including those in training, the second-time dispatch warriors, and special logistic forces, who have not yet managed to register their names, are hereby invited to enroll by Saturday, 20 September at the latest, by contacting SAIKI mobilization centers in various regional bases of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps. Arrangements will then be made to dispatch them in the special Muharram convoys and epic-makers of 'Ashura.

WIH Head Says Regime 'Sets Conditions' for War's End
LD161523 Tehran IRNA in English 1458 GMT 16 Sep 86

[Excerpt] Tehran, Sept 16, IRNA — "Saddam Husayn is certain to be defeated and it is the Islamic Republic of Iran which determines the fate of the shaky Iraqi regime", said the head of the War Information Headquarters (WIH) Dr Kamal Kharrazi, here Tuesday.

Speaking at a press conference on the occasion of the 'War Week' (22-28 September), Dr Kharrazi said that at the outset of the war the Iraqi regime had vowed to overthrow the Islamic Republic and "liberate" Khuzestan Province of Iran. He said the Iraqi regime intended to impose its own terms for a truce with Iran in the wake of its expected occupation of Persian Gulf islands and parts of the Iranian territory. Dr Kharrazi said that in contrast today it is Iran that sets the conditions for an end of the war. "We believe we should topple the Iraqi regime in order to uproot aggression in the region", he said.

Contrary to the shaky regime of Iraq which relies on the big powers and regional reactionaries, Iran is a great, independent, and stable power in the region and prestigious in the international scenes, Kharrazi said. "Our war fronts are manned by Muslim and motivated people who help enhance the spirit of resistance among the masses and uphold their morale," the WIH head said. [passage omitted]

Volunteer Units Continue To Depart for Battlefronts
NC170607 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 17 Sep 86

[Text] As part of the continual departure of the people's forces to the battlefronts of the war with the Zionist enemy, one combat battalion from West Azarbayjan Province and another from the Khomeyn District's mobilization forces, known by the name of the 'Ashura epic-makers, left for the operational zones yesterday. According to Central News Unit reports, special 'Ashura convoys composed of combat forces from the cities of Zanjan, Takestan, Abhar, and Qeydar in Zanjan Province and the 'Ashura epic-makers from Mahabad also left for the warfronts of our Islamic country yesterday amid a warm send-off by local residents. It should also be noted that hundreds of trained mobilization forces departed for the battlefronts from Naqadeh and (Kavar-e Fars) yesterday.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Further Heights Captured
LD171231 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 17 Sep 86

[Excerpt] A Central News Unit correspondent from Ilam has sent a report on the continuation of the completion of Operation

Karbala-1, by ground forces combatants in the Mehran sector, which you will now hear:

[Begin recording] The mighty ground forces combatants, in addition to capturing the strategic 270 height in (?Namakzan) and destroying the 118th Brigade of Iraq's 35th Division, captured heights Nos 197,193,157,230,295, and 307 from the pagan Ba'thists.

According to a Central News Unit correspondent in Ilam, using RPG-7's, grenades, machine guns, and other light weapons, the forces of monotheism destroyed the personnel bunkers and weapons' emplacements of the Saddamite mercenaries. During the successful operation, the combatants of Islam destroyed 20 trenches and fox holes, four machine gun emplacements, and a loader of the pagan Ba'thists. [passage ommitted][end recording]

Frigate Downs Iraqi Plane, Takes Pilot

LD171141 Tehran IRNA in English 1135 GMT 17 Sep 86

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 17, IRNA — An Iraqi warplane was shot down by anti-aircraft fire of a frigate of the Iranian naval forces over the Persian Gulf at 09:50 hours (06:20 hours GMT) Wednesday, reported the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces here.

The report said that the pilot of the plane was captured by Iranian naval personnel shortly after the plane was downed and sank in the Persian Gulf waters.

The Iraqi warplane was attempting to raid the frigate, the report added.

Downed Plane Reportedly Mirage F-1

LD171549 Tehran IRNA in English 1543 GMT 17 Sep 86

[Text] Tehran, Sept 17, IRNA — An informed Iranian naval source told IRNA that the Iraqi warplane shot down by antiaircraft fire of a frigate of the Iranian naval forces was a Mirage F-1.

The Iraqi Mirage was shot down over northern area of the Persian Gulf at 09:50 hours local time (06:20 GMT) Wednesday.

Iraqi Navy 'Annihilated' in Gulf

LD171551 Tehran IRNA in English 1547 GMT 17 Sep 86

[Text] Tehran, Sept 17, IRNA — Iranian Navy Commander Captain Mohammad-Husayn Malekzadegan said here Wednesday that Iraq's Navy has been annihilated in the Persian Gulf although some small vessels, probably Yugoslav-built, are operating in Umm Qasr port but are unable to go out through Khur Abdullah canal.

Captain Malekzadegan said that Iran's Navy intercepted and inspected forty five cargo ships and oil tankers sailing in the Strait of Hormuz over the past few days.

The navy commander made the remarks in a telephone conversation with the Persian daily *Ettela'at* here.

Malekzadegan said that four Panamanian ships suspected of carrying goods for Iraq were intercepted and escorted to a southern Iranian port for thorough inspection on MonDay and Tuesday.

Iraqi Military Convoy Hit 9 Sep

LD161640 Tehran IRNA in English 1628 GMT 16 Sep 86

[Text] Bakhtaran, Sept 16, IRNA — Seventy Iraqi soldiers were killed and 30 vehicles destroyed when Iranian artillery fire hit the enemy military convoy on 9 September.

The 100 vehicle convoy was leaving Sayyid Sadiq township for Halabjah when it came under Iranian fire.

Communique No 2596

LD161632 Tehran IRNA in English 1604 GMT 16 Sep 86

[Text] Tehran, Sept 16, IRNA — Four Iraqi warplanes were shot down by Iranian anti-aircraft fire over Khark Island, Persian Gulf, Tuesday, said a military communique released by the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces here.

Joint Staff Communique Number 2596 said that Iran's Navy intercepted and inspected 13 cargo ships and oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz Monday and allowed 12 of them to continue voyage and escorted one to a southern Iranian port for thorough inspection.

The communique furthermore said that another cargo ship suspected of carrying goods for Iraq was intercepted in the Strait of Hormuz and later escorted to the Persian Gulf coasts for thorough inspection by Iran's Navy Tuesday morning.

Several Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and an enemy mine field, 10 gun emplacements, and five vehicles were set ablaze and destroyed in the western and southern fronts as they were shelled by Iranian Gendarmerie forces on Monday, the communique said.

The joint staff communique said that Iranian forces set ablaze an Iraqi military base in Hajj 'Umran, northwestern fronts Monday. They also pounded enemy armoured units in areas overlooking Marivan destroying a number of Iraqi tanks.

In the southern fronts, the communique said, Iranian forces smashed a convoy of Iraqi patrols in Sharhani operational region Monday inflicting substantial casualties and losses on enemy troops.

Some Iraqi tanks were set ablaze and destroyed in Bajaliyeh [name as received] and Nahre Anbar operational theaters, southern fronts, Monday by Iranian artillery fire, the communique said.

The military communique said that a number of Iraqi scouts were killed and three enemy observation posts destroyed in Bakhtaran and Ilam border fronts Monday when they were hit by Iranian artillery fire.

Iranian patrols in a four-hour clash with Iraqi patrols in Halaleh operational theater Monday inflicted heavy casualties and losses on enemy troops forcing them to flee, according to the communique.

Elsewhere, the communique said that another convoy of Iraqi patrols attempted to infiltrate Iranian positions in Sugar, western fronts Monday incurred casualties and was forced to flee under Iranian artillery fire.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

18 SEPTEMBER 1986

Lebanon

The French Embassy's military attache was shot dead in the embassy parking lot 18 September, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. A Syrian "responsible source" cited by SANA expressed Syria's "extreme pain and anger" at the killing, adding that Syria denounces the continuation of such acts against the French at a time when France is adopting "balanced" stands on the Middle East conflict and "positive" stands on the situation in Lebanon.

As for the terrorist attacks in Paris, the "Committee for Solidarity with Arab and Middle East Political Prisoners" issued a statement promising more attacks in France and threatening violence against Italy and the United States, according to the Voice of Lebanon. In Tripoli, Robert and Maurice Ibrahim 'Abdallah told journalists that they have nothing to do with the bombings in Paris and that they have not left Lebanon for 2 years, Beirut radio noted. The two brothers, who are sought by French police in connection with the attacks, offered to place themselves at the disposal of Lebanese and French judicial authorities.

In the south, residents staged a "mammoth" demonstration in Tyre in response to the Amal movement's appeal for support for UNIFIL, Voice of National Resistance radio reported.

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian artillery and naval forces sunk two Iraqi patrol boats in the northern part of the Gulf east of Umm Qasr, IRNA reported, adding that the vessels were trying to reach the Al-Bakr offshore platform. In a related statement reported by the agency, the commander of the Iranian Navy claimed that the Iraqi Navy has been "annihilated" in the Gulf and that the small Iraqi vessels based in Umm Qasr are unable to go out through the Khawr 'Abdallah channel.

Meanwhile, an Iraqi communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio acknowledged the loss of an Iraqi plane north of Khark Island 17 September, and IRNA noted that the downed plane was a Mirage F-1.

In Tehran, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni received Revolution Guards Corps officials and gave them "necessary guidelines," according to IRNA.

Arrest of Iranians in Turkey

The Ankara Security Court has indicted three Iranians for "founding a criminal organization and being members of an armed band," the court prosecutor disclosed in a statement reported by ANATOLIA. The Turkish agency noted that the Iranians were arrested at Ankara Airport 13 September when they were caught in possession of a case containing an explosives detonator.

West Bank-Jordan

The Israeli authorities have permitted a Jordanian bank to open in Nabulus for the first time since 1967 and branches may open in other West Bank locations in the future, Jerusalem radio reported. In Jordan, Planning Minister Tahir Kan'an stated that the reopening of Jordanian commercial banks in the West Bank is linked with Jordan's plans to implement development projects in the occupied Arab territories, the *Jordan Times* noted. Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i welcomed the initiative in a press statement reported by the paper, asserting that Israel permitted the Jordanian bank to reopen in response to U.S. pressure. Al-Rifa'i also commented on the results of the Alexandria summit, stating that the nature of the "preparatory committee" announced by the Israeli and Egyptian leaders "is still a puzzle to us." He dismissed any idea of a tripartite Jordanian-Egyptian-Israeli preparatory committee, stressing that Jordan will "under no circumstances" participate in such a committee.

Libya

Tripoli radio broadcast Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's speech at the Islamic Call Society conference in Tripoli in which the Libyan leader called for Muslim volunteers from all over the world to help defend Libya against the "crusading Zionist aggression." He maintained that the U.S. State Department will always belong to "Jews and Zionists," adding that Muslims must alert U.S. public opinion to the seriousness of this "very dangerous issue." Al-Qadhdhafi also denounced sectarian divisions within Islam as "heresies" which have become "a worm that is devouring Islam's bone and body." He deplored the Muslim Brotherhood's bombing campaign in Syria and its role in Sudan, stressing that Muslim groups should direct violence against "the crusaders" and Zionism, not against other Muslims. On the Iran-Iraq war, Al-Qadhdhafi urged the conference to launch an appeal for an end to the "war of the cities," which he described as "cowardly" and alien to Muslim ethics.

Sudan

Sudan Airways resumed flights to Juba 16 September, according to a Khartoum Airport source cited by SUNA. Juba Airport was closed in August after the SPLA shot down an airliner. Meanwhile, the SPLA's clandestine radio announced that "two unidentified aircraft not belonging to the Sudan Air Force" bombed an SPLA-held position 12 September, destroying Jonglei Canal equipment that was captured by the SPLA last March.

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National Fatherland Front Plans Second Congress

LD181011 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 17 Sep 86

[Text] An extraordinary plenary session of the DRA National Fatherland Front [NFF] Central Council, which was held this afternoon, decided to convene the second congress of the NFF during the month of Aqrab [end Oct-Nov] of the current year in order to advance the front's sociopolitical activities and improve all its aspects and contents.

Present at the work of the plenum were: Anahita Ratebzad, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo; Najmoddin Kawiani, secretary of the PDPA Central Committee; some members of the party Central Committee; a number of members of the Revolutionary Council and the Council of Ministers; and members of the Central Council of the DRA NFF.

A few verses were recited from the Koran at the beginning of the plenum work, and then Abdorrahim Hatef, chairman of the Central Council of the DRA NFF, read out the basic statement concerning the need for the convocation of the second plenum of the National Fatherland Front.

A BIA correspondent adds that the draft resolution of the plenum concerning the convocation of the second congress of the NFF was unanimously approved.

Along with the approval of the draft resolution, the members of the preparatory commission of the congress and the [words indistinct] documents of the congress were appointed. It was decided that the second congress of the NFF would be convened during the month of Aqrab of the current year.

Tehran Reports 2 Soviet 'Officers' Killed in Kabul

LD171319 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 17 Sep 86

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, reports received from Kabul indicate that the Muslim Afghan revolutionaries shot and killed two high-ranking Soviet officers who left their residences to go to Kabul Airport. Reports add that these two officers were killed in the Bibinah crossroad in Kabul. The reports did not mention anything about the time of the attack.

The Central News Unit also reports that during a successful operation, the Muslim Afghan revolutionaries liberated the Golestan region in Farah Province. During this operation, carried out earlier this month, 20 of the occupation forces were killed. This report adds that following this attack fighter planes of the Kabul regime bombed the region and martyred or wounded several civilians. Also in the course of this attack, antiaircraft fire from the Afghan Muslim revolutionaries downed a Sukhoy-24 fighter plane of the Kabul regime.

Another report from Afghanistan indicates that clashes between the Afghan revolutionaries and joint occupation and governmental forces continue. These clashes started on 12 September following an attack by the occupation forces on positions of the Muslim revolutionaries in the Do Ab region of Herat. Thanks to resistance of the Afghan Muslim revolutionaries, the occupying forces suffered considerable losses and casualties. This report adds: So far, in these clashes, at least 220 occupation troops, including some high-ranking advisers of the Soviet Armed Forces, have been killed. The fire of the Muslim forces has also downed 14 fighter planes and helicopters of the Kabul regime and destroyed 19 tanks in this area and the surrounding regions. During this period, 25 of Muslim revolutionaries have been martyred and 50 wounded.

Ershad on 'Elected Government' to Jatiya Party

BK171642 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 17 Sep 86

[Text] At the conference of Jatiya Party workers of Dhaka division in the capital today, President Ershad said his initiative to establish an elected government will be complete with presidential election. He said the people will carry forward the process of transition to democracy for an elected government in the country. Our people are conscious enough and they always took correct decisions at these phases of national life. He said democracy cannot be established by creating chaos and indiscipline in society and impeding the process of economic development now going on all over the country. The people want peace and stability to march forward toward progress and prosperity.

The president said the objectives of our war of independence were equitable distribution of national resources and balanced development of the country. Positive results in this regard are now visibly following reforms in various sectors.

Addressing the meeting, Prime Minister Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury called upon the opposition political parties to take part in the presidential polls. Deputy Prime Minister Kazi Zafar Ahmed also spoke at the conference.

Earlier, Deputy Prime Minister M.A. Matin placed a resolution before the conference nominating President Ershad as the Jatiya Party candidate for the presidential polls. The huge gathering approved the resolution. The ministers, MP's, and party workers from the 17 districts of Dhaka division attended the conference.

Nominations Submitted for Presidential Poll

BK171552 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 17 Sep 86

[Text] Nomination papers for presidential election were submitted to the returning officer at the Election Commission in Dhaka today. Those who submitted their nominations are: Hussain Mohammad Ershad, Mastan-i-Azam Shah Mohammad Akhtar Ali Salawi, Afsar Ali, Abul Khair Mohammad Shasul Huda, Mohammad Abdus Samad, Mohammadullah Hafiz Ji Huzoor, Syed Munirul Huda Chowdhury, Mohammad Zahi Khan, Sheikh Mohammad Obaidullah bin Said Jalalabadi, Khairul Islam Jesori, Khandokar Azizul Haq, Syed Farooq Rahman, Waliul Islam Chowdhury, Malika Begum, Mohammad Moazzam Hussain Chowdhury, Mohammad Khalilur Rahman Majumdar. The nomination papers will be scrutinized by the returning officer tomorrow at 1000. The last date for the withdrawal of nominations is Monday.

SARC Meeting on Drug Trafficking Opens in Dhaka

BK171648 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 17 Sep 86

[Text] The first meeting of the SARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] study group on drug trafficking and drug abuse began in Dhaka today. Thirty delegates from the seven member countries are attending the meeting. It will study and analyze the problems of illicit drug trafficking and drug abuse and formulate recommendations for approval by the SARC ministerial committee.

Gandhi Deplores EEC 'Diluting' of RSA Sanctions

BK171619 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 17 Sep 86

[Excerpt] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has deplored the action of the European Economic Community in diluting sanctions against South Africa. Inaugurating the Kerala Pradesh [State] Congress-I workers convention in Cochin today, he declared that India will never compromise on principles and commitment to nationalism, human rights, and dignity. He pointed out that India cut off all economic connections with South Africa at considerable loss and said: We will never give up our fight against apartheid.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi said eradication of poverty is our prime aim and it has been given priority in the 20-point program 1986. A responsive administration is necessary for successful implementation of this program and the government is moving in this direction. Mr Gandhi said the country is being equipped with the best technology which need not mean sophisticated equipment like computers but the best instruments suited to the situation.

Referring to the rise of religious fundamentalism, he said it is the greatest danger the country is facing today. He called upon the people to shun communalism and parochialism and strengthen the base of secularism. [passage omitted]

Indonesia's Allegation of Soviet Sub Base Protested

BK180626 Hong Kong AFP in English 0621 GMT 18 Sep 86

[Text] New Delhi, Sept 18 (AFP) — India has expressed its "concern and unhappiness" to Indonesia over allegations by a senior Indonesian officer that Soviet submarines had a base in India's Nicobar Islands.

Indonesian Ambassador Raden Tamtomo was summoned to the External Affairs Ministry Wednesday by Foreign Secretary A. P. Venkateswaran to hear of India's displeasure at a reported statement by Major-General Hartas, the ministry spokesman said.

The allegations were reported in the *Indonesian Times* Monday.

Mr Venkateswaran said such statements by senior officials of friendly countries were particularly unfortunate.

The spokesman said it was well known that India does not offer military facilities to the armed forces of any foreign power.

No one was available immediately for comment at the Indonesian Embassy.

'Prominent' Minority Leader in Assam Shot, Killed

BK180750 Hong Kong AFP in English 0745 GMT 18 Sep 86

[Text] Gauhati, India, Sept 18 (AFP) — Unknown assailants have shot dead a prominent minority leader here in the 10th political assassination in Assam in nine months, police said Thursday.

Police suspected that the Marxist United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA), which is campaigning for independence for the Assamese, could be responsible for the slaying late Wednesday of lawyer Kalipada Sen, aged 65.

N. Changkakati, director-general of Assam Police, told *Agence France-Presse*, "We think it to be an act of the extremist force — ULFA."

Mr Sen, a Bengali-speaker and president of the United Minorities Front (UMF), was shot at his home. A shopkeeper said he saw four people driving away from the house of Mr Sen, who had survived two earlier murder bids.

The ULFA is opposed to the Assam government, which is controlled by the regional Asom Gana Parishad (AGP) (Assam People's Council) whom it considers "enemies of people of Assam". The ULFA is also against the presence of minorities, observers recalled.

Assam has a population of some 19 million with a density of 254 people per square kilometre against the already high national average of 221. Some five million people are Bengali speakers, most of whom migrated illegally into Assam.

The government was elected in November 1985 following an agreement reached between the federal government and AGP leaders to end a bloody campaign to send back immigrants from neighbouring Bangladesh. About 3,000 died in the six-year campaign.

The agreement allowed the immigrants to stay, many without voting rights for some 10 years.

Police Register Complaint Against Punjab Minister

BK180310 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 18 Sep 86

[Text] The Amritsar police have registered a case against the Punjab agriculture minister, Mr Harbhajan Singh Sandhu. Speaking to newsmen, the superintendent of police, Amritsar, said the cases against Mr Sandhu and 40 of his supporters were filed following a complaint that [he] had assaulted an inspector who had gone to see him at the circuit house on Monday.

'Indefinite Curfew' Imposed on Rajasthan

BK171634 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 17 Sep 86

[Text] In Rajasthan, indefinite curfew has been clamped in (?Jalaur) town following continued tension in the area. All educational institutions in the town have been closed until tomorrow. The police had to lathi [baton] charge and use tear gas yesterday to control the two groups indulging in looting and arson.

USSR Protest Over Diplomat's Murder Answered

BK181025 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1005 GMT 18 Sep 86

[Text] A Foreign Office spokesman said in Islamabad today that the Government of Pakistan has conveyed to the Soviet Government its sincere and deep regrets at the crime of murder of Soviet diplomat that took place in Pakistan territory. He was commenting on the reported protest by the Soviet Government on the incident. He said the government shares grief, sorrow, and even the anger of the Soviet Government on the incident. He said the government shares grief, sorrow, and even the anger of the Soviet Government at the murder of Colonel Gorenkov.

Regarding the comments by TASS, the spokesman said that Pakistan considers it wholly unfair and unjust on the part of the official Soviet agency to use this unfortunate incident for purposes of propaganda against Pakistan. The government condemns the crime and it will take the action under the law against the culprit.

The spokesman expressed the hope the incident will not affect Pakistani-Soviet relations because of the crime, as it can be committed in any country at any time.

The spokesman said the body of the deceased will be flown to the Soviet Union soon.

Ziaul Haq Offers Condolences on Deaths of Diplomats

BK181551 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 18 Sep 86

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq visited the Soviet Embassy in Islamabad today and offered condolences at the tragic death of the Soviet diplomat Colonel Gorenkov who was killed in Islamabad on Tuesday.

In his meeting with the Soviet charge d'affaires, the president expressed deep grief and regret over this tragic incident. The president assured him that the Government of Pakistan will immediately and thoroughly investigate this incident so that the assassin can be punished in accordance with law.

The president also visited the Iraqi Embassy and offered condolences at the death of the Iraqi diplomat (Mahatar) 'Abd al-Salam who was killed in a car bomb explosion in Karachi a few days ago. In a separate meeting with the ambassador-designate of Iraq, the president expressed heartfelt sorrow at this tragic incident.

The president also visited the United Arab Emirates Embassy and lamented the death of the UAE vice consul who was killed in a road accident in Karachi. In his meeting with the charge d'affaires, he expressed deep grief at the tragic death of the UAE diplomat. The president registered his sentiments in the condolence books placed at three embassies.

Tehrik-i-Istaqlal Leaders Invited To Visit USSR

BK180520 Rawalpindi THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English
14 Sep 86 p 1

[Text] Bannu, Sept 13 — The NWFP chairman of Tehrik-i-Istaqlal, Syed Munir Ahmed Shah, has welcomed the tour of Khan Abdul Wali Khan to the neighboring countries — Afghanistan and Soviet Union — and disclosed that some leaders of Tehrik-i-Istaqlal will also visit Soviet Union soon.

Talking to PPI, he said that there was no harm in the tour of the political leaders of Pakistan to the neighboring country, Soviet Union, "with whom we have diplomatic ties." He appreciated the tour of Awami National Party president, Khan Abdul Wali Khan, to Soviet Union and for having talks with the leaders of the Soviet Union on regional and bilateral matters.

He said that Tehrik had received an invitation from Mr Gorbachev and the Tehrik party leaders will soon visit Soviet Union.

Pan Am Hijacking Inquiry Continues; Hijackers Detained

BK181030 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1005 GMT 18 Sep 86

[Text] It was officially stated in Islamabad today that the high-level inquiry set up by the government into the attempted hijacking of Pan Am airliner in Karachi is continuing and all the four hijackers as well as the fifth person placed under detention on suspicion are in custody of Pakistan authorities.

Gandhi's 'Inflammatory' Remarks Viewed

BK171438 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 8 Sep 86 p 4

[Editorial: "Rajiv's Hijacking Remarks"]

[Text] Without sufficient command of facts under his disposal; Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has made inflammatory comments on Pakistan's handling of the hijack drama at Karachi.

It seems the height of ungraciousness to accuse Pakistan of bungling when the Pakistani commandoes risked their lives to storm the seized plane and neutralise the hijackers. The passengers came from different nationalities including Indians, Pakistanis, Britons, Americans, Germans, etc. The fate of the Indian passengers was not unique from that of other passengers. Figuratively speaking, they were all in the same boat of terror and calamity.

Conceivably if the Pakistani commandos had not interceded, the toll might have been 389 casualties.

It appears that Rajiv is becoming captive to reflex anti-Pakistan attitudes of his advisors. More importantly, it shows an unwillingness on the part of Indian Government to let Pakistan get any good publicity particularly at such a large gathering of Third World nations at Harare. It was in bad taste to accuse Pakistan of encouraging hijacking when Pakistan is one of the rare countries where hijacking is a capital offence. Rajiv used the NAM

[Nonaligned Movement] summit at Zimbabwe to implicate and drag Pakistan into India's Sikh problem. What that had to do with the Pan Am seizure, at Karachi is anybody's guess. But what is not anybody's guess is that Rajiv has been coddling Tamil separatists who have spread terror in Sri Lanka. Rajiv should also bear in mind that when the late Mrs Gandhi was ousted by the Janata, and during her time out of power, 2 youths staged a hijacking in her support. The 2 young men were later pardoned by Mrs Gandhi when she regained power. They later got a Congress (I) ticket and got elected in Parliament. During Rajiv's American trip last summer he got President Reagan to release and pardon his pal who was imprisoned in the United States on terrorist and felony-related charges.

It is significant that Rajiv used the NAM summit to make his parochial point about Indo-Pakistan relations. It is also significant that Rajiv should rebuff the entreaties of goodwill which he appears to interpret as a sign of weakness of our policies and policy-makers.

National Assembly Discusses Internal Policies

BK181118 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1005 GMT 18 Sep 86

[Text] The National Assembly today began discussion on the internal policy on a motion moved by the interior minister, Mr Mohammad Aslam Khan Khattak, that the House take into immediate consideration the law and order situation in the country.

In his opening remarks, the interior minister hoped that the members of the House would express their views on weak points in the policy and give suggestions for improvement of the situation. Three members took part in the debate. They were Syedah Abida Hussain, Doctor Shafiq Chaudhury, and Dr Sher Afgan.

Taking part in the discussion, Syedah Abida Hussain from Jhang said the atmosphere obtaining in the country is far from satisfactory as far as the life, property, and general peace is concerned. She criticized the crackdown on political opponents on the 14th of August. The killing of diplomats in Karachi and Islamabad shows the deteriorating law and order situation.

Dr Shafiq Chaudhury from Faisalabad criticized the internal policies of the government and said that these have resulted in the law and order siutation which has been deteriorating further. He said the government policies are based on ad hocism. He suggested the government should bend all its efforts to strengthen democracy.

Dr Sher Afgan from Mianwali and Bhakkar was of the opinion that the external and internal policies of the government have completely failed. He said the problem facing the country can be tackled by taking the people into confidence. He said the law and order problem can be solved by acting on the principle of give-and-take and through the political process. The House then adjourned to meet again on Sunday at 1000.

Curfew Imposed, Army Called Out in Lahore

BK171724 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 17 Sep 86

[Excerpt] A Punjab government spokesman announced in Lahore tonight that curfew has been imposed in various areas of Lahore till further order and Army has been called out for assistance of the administration. According to the announcement, curfew has been imposed from Mian Mir bridge to the southern areas of PMG [Post Master General] Office, excluding the mall. Curfew has also been imposed in Krishna Nagar, Sanghar, Mughalpura, Baghbanpura, and in the jurisdiction of Dharmpur, and (Garishaho) police stations. People living in these areas have been advised to remain within the four walls of their residences during curfew hours. The members of the law enforcing agencies and staff of hospitals, telephone, electricity department, water supply, and maintenance departments have been exempted from the curfew orders.

The Punjab awkaf [endowment] minister, Malik Khuda Bux Tiwana, said in Lahore today that 'Ashura [the 10th day of Muharram festival] had been observed in a peaceful and dignified manner in the provincial capital. He was talking to newsmen at a meeting also attended by ulema [Islamic scholars] belonging to all schools of thought. He said it was only after the main procession had entered Karbala (Kaneshah) that some subversive elements tried to create law-and-order situation in the surrounding area. One person identified as Ashraf was killed in a lane behind Karbala (Kaneshah) because of firing of miscreants and not because of any sectarian clash or any action taken by law enforcing agencies. He said a group of persons carrying weapons and lathis [batons] were out to create law-and-order situation in the city. Such elements also indulged in arson and looted a bakery near Nila Gumbad. Mr Khakan Babar and Syed Mustafa Haider Naqvi, two Shia leaders who were present at the meeting, said various incidents of violence in the city were not of sectarian nature and were being fomented with an ulterior motive. The minister said five persons have been killed at various places in the Punjab when disruptive and subversive elements tried to foment sectarian trouble. He warned that those involved in these incidents would be severely dealt with. Meanwhile, police have taken a number of preventive actions to check the activities of disruptive elements trying to create law-and- order situation.

The Shia-Sunni ithehad [unity] committee at a meeting held under the chairmanship of the Punjab awkaf minister in Lahore today unanimously appealed to the people and ulema of all schools of thought to maintain peaceful atmosphere to promote solidarity and harmony. The committee urged the people to be on guard against those who are spreading rumors for their ulterior motives. [passage omitted on names of persons who attended the meeting]

Airspace Violations by Afghan Planes Protested

BK171532 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 17 Sep 86

[Text] Two Afghan aircraft violated Pakistan's airspace in Teri Mangal and six aircraft in the (Tiwar Kotal) area of Kurram Agency yesterday [16 September]. In the first incident, the

aircraft dropped two bombs, killing two Afghan refugees and injuring another. In the second incident, the Afghan aircraft dropped 13 bombs and fired 40 rockets, injuring 4 soldiers of the Kurram militia.

The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office this afternoon, and a strong protest was lodged with him over these unprovoked attacks.

Press Note Issued on Sectarian Clashes in NWFP
BK171631 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 17 Sep 86

[Text] A press note issued by the Dera Ismail Khan District magistrate says that a group of people wanted to take out a procession through (Kamsoi) bazaar toward Kotli Imam yesterday. Another group comprising residents of this area objected to it, leading to a clash in which six personnel of the security forces sustained minor injuries; they were later discharged from the hospital after treatment. Efforts are on to resolve the issue through negotiations between leaders of the two sects. Section 144 [banning assembly of five or more persons at one place] has been enforced in the area. The situation is fully under control, the press note adds.

The chief minister of the Northwest Frontier Province, Arabab Mohammad Jahagir Khan, has appealed to the people to fully cooperate with the government in maintaining law and order in the area. In a statement to the press in Peshawar today, the chief minister paid tribute to the NWFP people for maintaining law and order in the province during the Muharram festival. Unfortunately, he said, tension was created in Dera Ismail Khan and the law enforcement agencies had to take certain steps to prevent any untoward incident.

SRI LANKA

TULF Refutes Jayewardene's Claim on Agreement

BK171408 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 17 Sep 86

[Text] The Tamil United Liberation Front [TULF] has refuted the claim of the Sri Lankan president, Mr Jayewardene, that 90 percent of the agreement has been reached on the ethnic issue with the TULF. In a statement issued in Madras, the secretary general of TULF, Mr Amirthalingam, said no agreement has been reached on many issues though 13 fundamental positions were placed before the Sri Lankan Government.

Air Force Dislodges Terrorist Post in Batticaloa

BK171209 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 17 Sep 86

[Text] Police commandos and Air Force pilots yesterday launched an attack on eastern Batticaloa, dislodging a terrorist position which had been under attack for 6 days. Two light aircraft and two helicopters mounted with machine guns were used in 6 hours of aerial attack over Manmunai. No assessment of the casualities or damages were available but officials said a group of 20 hard-core terrorists had fled a kovil [Hindu temple] at Kurinchamunai to jungles of Unnichchai 7 miles away.

A high-ranking military official said the security forces were compelled to use air support in the operation as terrorists were attempting to cut off essential supplies to civilians in the area. A 250-commando unit which was at Vavunativu and Kokkadichcholai yesterday advanced up to (Kalmankoda) passing the terrorist base near (Kodo) after 6 days of heavy fighting.

Meanwhile, the government yesterday began working out contingency plans to supply Batticaloa with essential food and fuel supply as fighting continued for the 7th day.

Two more suspected hard-core terrorists were arrested in the hill country this week as investigations into terrorist influence in the region continues. The two men suspected to be members of the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front [EPRLF], were arrested near Nawalapitiya station and (Novodbazaar) respectively. Hatton police recovered 1 old model revolver, 1 magazine, and 30 rounds of ammunition from their possession.

The alleged connection between the members of the Tamil Eelam Liberation extremists, a group operation in the hill country and the EPRLF came to light when eight persons were arrested for the robbery of a gun and cartridges at (Rasalle) estate in June.

Investigations later led to the arrest of ten others and the recovery of two guns, a grenade, a helmet, and gloves. According to the police, some of them had been trained in EPRLF camps in the Jaffna peninsula.

Car Bomb Explosion Reported in Batticaloa

BK180909 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English
0848 GMT 18 Sep 86

[Text] Colombo, Sept 18 *(Lanka Puwath)* — The media centre in Colombo in a news flash given to *Lanka Puwath* this afternoon said that seven persons were killed when a bomb placed in a private motor vehicle parked in the private bus stand in Batticaloa, eastern Sri Lanka, exploded this afternoon.

At about 1115 hours (local time) today the security forces were on their way from the Batticaloa Airport to the camp when a bomb placed in a private motor vehicle in the private bus stand exploded wounding four security forces men and setting ablaze a private bus and causing damage to three other private buses.

The explosion killed five civilians and the electricity cables which were damaged fell on the road electrocuting two civilians.

Two shops were also burnt.

3 Separatists Killed, 8 Captured in East

BK171059 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English
1038 GMT 17 Sep 86

[Text] Colombo, Sept 17 *(Lanka Puwath)* — Three separatists were killed and eight other separatist terrorists captured, when government troops effectively repulsed a terrorist attack in Ampara, eastern Sri Lanka yesterday.

The media centre in Colombo told *Lanka Puwath* that a security forces patrol was combing the jungles of Ampara to trace terrorist bases and they were attacked by a gang of terrorists.

Troops returned fire killing three terrorists and capturing eight others.

Three rifles and a sub-machine gun were recovered form the scene.

The security force convoy on their return was hit by a landmine and three policemen were killed and another wounded.

2 Separatists Killed in Army Camp Attack

BK171055 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English
1037 GMT 17 Sep 86

[Text] Colombo, Sept 17 *(Lanka Puwath)* — Two separatist terrorists were killed when government troops effectively repulsed a separatist terrorist attack on the Mankulam security forces camp in northern Sri Lanka yesterday.

The media centre in Colombo told *Lanka Puwath* that terrorists attacked the Mankulam camp with mortars and small arms yesterday.

Troops effectively repulsed the attack and the terrorists withdrew leaving behind two terrorists who were killed in the counter attack.

Majlis Session Views Nonaligned Summit, Gulf War

PM151333 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 7 Sep 86 p 2

[Report on 7 September Majlis Proceedings]

[Excerpts] The details of the bill dealing with punishment for those who sell and use indecent clothing was passed by the Majlis today, in the presence of the Council of Guardians. According to the bill, the Islamic Revolution Court is the body authorized to deal with the prosecution in such cases. [passage omitted]

The session's first preliminary speech was given by Mehdi Mehdizadeh, the deputy from Gonabad, who talked about the glory of the month of Moharram and the philosophy behind 'Ashura. He said: Today the existence of a war front against heresy, led by the superpowers and their servants, and the constant threat to Islam dictate that we follow the example of 'Ashura more closely. I hope that, if God is willing, this month will be the month for final victory.

The deputy then commented on the summit of the Nonaligned Movement heads of state, and said: Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i who took part in this summit pointed out many of the movement's weaknesses and presented many valuable pieces of advice for its future. He said: If the primary rules of nonalignment are obeyed, this movement could be a support for the downtrodden people of the Third World. Unfortunately some elements of the superpowers have infiltrated the movement, and this is why the movement's quality becomes worse every day, with increasing rifts and factionalism within it. So much so that it is unable to solve major economic and political issues.

One example of this is the imposed war of Iraq against Iran. Unfortunately the movement not only did not condemn the aggressor but also, during its first sessions, nominated the butcher of Baghdad as a candidate to head the movement. Fortunately, the actions of the Iraqi revolutionaries and the Islamic Republic foiled this attempt. [passage omitted]

The next speaker was Latif Safari, the deputy from Eslamabad-e Gharb. [passage omitted.]

He said: You brave people of Iran! You should follow the war in all its facets and you should rearrange your lives in accordance with wartime conditions. Just as your loved ones are fighting the heretic army on the fronts, you should fight against those who spread the corrupt Western culture, who have arranged themselves on a cultural war front. Fight against hoarders, or those who sell at high prices, who cause shortages, thereby placing themselves among the ranks of the enemy's economic soldiers. Fight against those who cause discontent and rumormongers and do not give them a chance. Hand them over to the arms of justice and rid society of them. [passage omitted]

The deputy from Eslamabad-e Gharb then commented on the recent remarks by the imam at the end of "government week," and said: Everyone knows that the imam was addressing those who are only pretending to obey the imam, and therefore the last word has been said about them. He said: It is very unfair for some to criticize the government in a regime where serving is a religious duty. They criticize the government because they are not involved with it or because the government is not obeying their views, despite all the problems of the war, the economic sanctions, and other economic problems. This shows their devilish tricks. As Ayatollah Meshkini has said, this government has performed miracles in that it has no foreign debts, so it is not right that some people please the enemy by printing figures in their newspaper and saying that the government is impotent.

If God is willing, the fatherly advice of the imam, which is the biggest support for the government to continue its efforts, will have an effect. [passage omitted]

Military Commander Reports Operation To Capture Hill

NC180715 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 18 Sep 86

[Text] During an interview with an IRNA correspondent, the commander of operations in northwestern Mehran said that the 2-day attack to liberate Height 270 was concluded successfully. Islamic forces have been stationed on and around this hill. He added: During the course of the 2-day battle, this sensitive and strategic 15 km area, which includes [words indistinct] Iraqi cities of Zurbatiyah, Badrah, and Warmehr, was liberated. Utilizing their access to this sector, the Islamic forces completely routed an Iraqi Armed Forces brigade, forcing the brigade's commander and officers to flee from the operational zone. The commander of the northwest Mehran operational zone continued: The operations to liberate Height 270 and the areas around it began at 0100 [2130 GMT on 15 September] on Tuesday, 16 September, under the codename Ya Zeynab-e Kobra. They ended when the remainder of the 1st and 3d Battalions of the 118th Brigade of the 35th Divison of the Iraqi II Corps were crushed at 1800 [1430 GMT] yesterday.

He stated: During this period, the enemy tried its best to regain this area. Their efforts were foiled by the Islamic forces' firm determination and intensive fire which left the Iraqi Armed Forces in disarray. Unable to resist, the commander of the brigade and the commanders of the 1st, 2d, and 3d Battalions issued orders to retreat at 1600 [1230 GMT] and proceeded to pull their scattered forces back. The commander of the northwest Mehran operational zone added: During the course of the 48-hour battle, the engineering units of our Islamic forces, supported by heavy artillery fire, established barriers in the captured areas to consolidate our positions. This sensitive area, once a very important enemy stronghold, has now been conquered by our Islamic combatants. He continued: Trucks carrying arms and ammunition belonging to the Iraqi Armed Forces were seized by our Islamic combatants during the liberation of Height 270 and evacuated to the rear.

Colonel (Ghehtan Mohammad Mustafa), commander of the 118th Brigade of the 35th Division of the Iraqi Armed Forces II Corps stationed in the northwestern Mehran operational zone issued orders to retreat at 1600 [1230 GMT] yesterday. He and the forces under his command then fled from this sector. This information was revealed to an IRNA correspondent by one of the prisoners which our Islamic combatants captured last night. According to this prisoner, Col (Ghehtan Mohammad Mustafa) gave three counterattack orders to the 1st and 3d Battalions.

However, intensive fire from the Islamic forces hindered their advance each time and they were forced to retreat after sustaining numerous casualties.

IRNA Reports on Heights

LD181057 Tehran IRNA in English 1030 GMT 18 Sep 86

[Excerpt] Bakhtaran, Sept 18, IRNA — [Passage omitted] The Heights No 270 are a chain of heights parallel to the Qalavizan Height which was under the occupation of Iraqi forces since the liberation of Mehran, June 30, 1986. The heights are 15 kms long and have a peak of 270 meters. The heights were so important to the Iraqi enemy that a complete infantry brigade used to safeguard them constantly.

The heights are located five kms deep inside Iraqi territory. The Muslim combatants of Iran are now stationing in an area 10 kms inside Iraq.

During the Karbala'-1 offensive which led to the liberation of Mehran, Division 17 of the Iraq Army was smashed and the Division 35, stationed in south, was dispatched to Mehran and Brigade 118 was missioned to safeguard the heights.

The Muslim forces of Iran have stabilised their positions in the captured area.

An Iranian commander referred to the military power, timely blitz of Iranian forces, and complete support of the artillery units as major factors for the success of the operation.

What the Iraqi enemy have left behind on the Height No 270 are mine fields, channels, observation posts, and military fortifications, built during the war to protect this sensitive area.

Further on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

2 Iraqi Navy Patrol Boats Sunk

LD171745 Tehran IRNA in English 1710 GMT 17 Sep 86

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., Sept 17, IRNA — Two Iraqi naval patrol vessels of the 7th Naval Division were sunk in the Umm-Qasr area in the Persian Gulf waters by the Islamic combatants of Iran Wednesday.

Reports reaching here added that four Iraqi naval vessels, attempting to reach the Al-Bakr platform at 03:30 GMT, were immediately fired upon by the coastal artillery units of Iran's Islamic Revolution's Guards naval forces.

In this clash, two of the Iraqi vessels were hit and sunk and the other two fled the scene.

Communique No 2597

LD171640 Tehran IRNA in English 1615 GMT 17 Sep 86

[Text] Tehran, Sept 17, IRNA — An Iraqi warplane was shot down at the Persian Gulf by the Iranian Navy at 09:50 hours (06:20 hours GMT) Wednesday, said a military communique here. The Iraqi warplane was about to raid an Iranian frigate.

The Communique Number 2597 released by the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces [said] that the plane's pilot was captured by the Iranian Marines.

Iran's Navy intercepted seven cargo ships and oil tankers sailing under foreign flags in the Strait of Hormuz Tuesday but allowed them to continue voyage after being satisfied that they were not carrying any war-related goods for Iraq, the communique said.

The communique said that Iraqi forces suffered substantial casualties and 11 enemy bunkers, several vehicles, two munitions dumps, one armored personnel carrier, and two pieces of heavy engineering hardware were destroyed throughout the fronts in artillery duels with Iranian forces on Tuesday.

In the northwestern fronts, the communique said, Iranian forces opened heavy artillery and mortar fire on Iraqi positions killing or wounding a number of Iraqi soldiers and setting ablaze several enemy supply vehicles and two pieces of heavy engineering equipment. Enemy engineering operations were also halted.

A considerable number of Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and five enemy bunkers, three military vehicles, and one armoured personnel carrier destroyed in the western fronts Tuesday as they were hit by Iranian artillery fire, according to the communique.

Elsewhere, the communique said, Iranian Muslim combatants suppressed Iraqi patrols and heavily pounded enemy positions and supply routes in the southern fronts Tuesday inflicting casualties on Iraqi troops and destroying two enemy munitions dumps and several light as well as heavy vehicles. A number of Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and six enemy bunkers and four vehicles destroyed in parts of the southern fronts Tuesday as they were shelled by Iranian Gendarmerie forces, the communique said.